



LEEC

LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION COMMISSION

Keynote Speaker Profile

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Workshop Spotlight: Bayou Pierre
Watershed Tour

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[SYMPOSIUM WEBSITE](#)

A Special Environmental Education Symposium Update

WATERSHEDS
FROM MY BACKYARD TO THE OCEAN

KEYNOTE SPEAKER PROFILE: KEVIN NEAL BAER, PHD

Kevin Neal Baer, PhD is the head of the University of Louisiana at Monroe Toxicology Department and an expert on environmental pollution. He is a recognized authority on multiple public safety issues, including: mercury in fish, insecticide and insect repellent toxicity, and water quality.

Baer began his academic career at Northeast Louisiana University in 1978 and earned his PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology in 1988. Before returning to the university, he worked as a research toxicologist at Haskell Laboratory for Toxicology and Industrial Medicine from 1989-1994. He currently teaches seven undergraduate and five graduate courses on pharmacology and toxicology at ULM.

Among the most recent research grant and fellowship projects on which Dr. Baer served as lead investigator are:

- Are There Unintended Toxic Effects on Resident Biota in Wetlands Used for Water Quality Management?
- Watershed Monitoring in the Ouachita River Basin
- Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI) Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Project in Bayou Lafourche Tributaries
- Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI) Watershed Water Quality Monitoring Project in Turkey Creek Tributaries

He is Associate Editor for the journal *Drug and Chemical Toxicology*, has authored or co-authored dozens of studies for scientific journals throughout his career, and is a frequent presenter at numerous toxicology and pharmacology symposia.

Doctor Baer is the father of three children and resides with his wife in Monroe, Louisiana.



Baer identifies a shellfish for a student at ULM Explorers Camp.
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WORKSHOP SPOTLIGHT

BAYOU PIERRE WATERSHED TOUR

Created by educators, the Bayou to Bay Watershed Project reconnects children to local waterways for the long-term benefit of both. It also offers a successful model for teaching watershed education in urban environments.

The tour will explore historically significant Bayou Pierre, one of Shreveport's largest watersheds and bayous. Following Bayou Pierre from its inner-city "headwaters" (AKA storm drains) to where the concrete ends, teachers can expect to:

- use an interactive map while identifying real life examples of key watershed terms
- canoe a section of bayou in south Shreveport that serves as a natural sieve for all life downstream
- learn several easy and effective activities for teaching about watersheds plus receive the Bayou to Bay Educator's Guide
- eat lunch at one of Shreveport's favorite restaurants (on the banks of the bayou) while learning about the 400-mile journey from there to the ocean
- participate in a storm drain marking!

It will be led by Jon Soul – Outdoor Education Coordinator at The Montessori School for Shreveport, Dionne Procell – teacher at Caddo Magnet High School, and Michele McKee – Programs and Education Grants Manager at Sci-Port: Louisiana's Science Center. All are members of the B2B Team and are trained Louisiana Watershed Protectors.

Visit www.bayoutobay.org.